

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PULLMAN
FEBRUARY 17, 2016

Roll Call

A special meeting of ASWSU and the City Council of the City of Pullman was held on February 17, 2016, at 5:30 p.m. in room LL60 Compton Union Building, WSU Campus, Pullman, Washington with the following present:

Glenn A. Johnson	Mayor
Leann L. Hubbard	Finance Director
Jeff Hawbaker	Councilmember
Eileen Macoll	Councilmember
Ann Parks	Councilmember
Al Sorensen	Councilmember
Nathan Weller	Councilmember
Pat Wright	Councilmember

Call to Order

The joint Council meeting with ASWSU was called to order by the Senate Chair Samantha Kieling at 5:30 p.m. Councilmember Wright moved, Councilmember Weller seconded to excuse Councilmember Hughes. The motion carried unanimously.

**Joint Meeting
with ASWSU**

ASWSU Items

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| Community Service Projects | 1. | Senator Brown El and Senator George want the whole ASWSU and Senate to have more presence in Pullman. They have contacted Gladish Community Center and Pullman's Parks and Recreation Department on possible projects. |
| Fire Response Times | 2. | Senator Swaab reported that the Greek chapters want a faster fire response time and a change in the fire inspection process. Currently, the fraternity chapter president has the sole responsibility to pass fire inspections without knowledge of compliance requirements. The Pullman Fire Department is lenient and the inspector came to his fraternity four times. He recommended (1) to have a compliance meeting before fire inspections, (2) a joint meeting for a preliminary inspection, and (3) a final date set where the fraternity should be in compliance so there are no fines issued. Councilmember Macoll asked what matrix he used to evaluate the fire response time. Senator Swaab said he used his cell phone. Pullman Fire Chief Heston reported that he supports Senator Swaab's focus to keep citizens safe (through fire inspections and fire responses) and would discuss any inspection concerns with Senator Swaab. He reported that if a call is non-emergent, then the response time will increase due to the procedure for non-emergent calls are to turn off lights and sirens and to reduce the vehicle speed. He reported that any calls that have a response time over ten minutes are individually reviewed. |
| Roadwork Update | 3. | Senator Simonson thanked the City for the joint meeting and for participating in the roadwork walk-along. He requested paving Colorado |

Street, fixing potholes in alleyways, and fixing the angle of the dangerous sidewalk in front of Pi Kappa Phi. Public Works Director Gardes reported the paving and sidewalk is part of the major \$1.5 million resurfacing project of 2017 and normally alleyways are not paved.

Bus Update

4. Delegate Moore asked how changes to the transit system would affect fees and citizens. Transit Manager Thompson reported that he has looked at providing Sunday service and other improvements. His preferred changes would cost \$180,000. Councilmember Weller asked if ASWSU finished their questionnaire on the importance of a Pullman-Moscow bus. Senator McMahon reported the questionnaire indicated a Pullman-Moscow bus was not top importance since most students carpool and would only use bus to shop or socialize instead of for transport to classes. Mayor Johnson said historically the Pullman-Moscow bus was highly subsidized, used by staff instead of students, and there was not a cab system.

Transit Manager Thompson gave a transit update. There are only three transit systems like Pullman in the state that are a city department. Pullman Transit has 46 employees, including 4 WSU graduates. Ridership has decreased in the fixed routes since 2012, but is stabilizing in 2015. There were 833,879 express riders, which is 60 percent of total ridership. These have declined over the year. These riders are stable over the fall and decline in the spring. Half of the budget consists of local utility tax and grants. The other half of the budget consists of pass sales, fares on the bus, and fare contracts. If the local utility tax and grants were absent, then fares would increase to \$2.00 from the current \$0.50. The two 40 foot hybrid grant funded buses are expected to be in service September 2017. Senator Chummun asked who pays for bus fees for faculty and staff. Director of WSU Transportation Services John Shaheen clarified that WSU parking fees pay for bus fees.

ASWSU
Community Barbecue
Update

5. Senator McMahon wants to thank the City Council and citizens in the community by having a joint barbecue. Councilmember Wright commented that the barbecue could be timed with the Pullman Chamber sponsored "meet Pullman" event where WSU students introduce parents to Pullman and thanked ASWSU for their help at this event.

Live Local
Pullman

6. Senator Zuniga reported that in 2012 the Mayor of Fallen created "Live Local Fallen" so he proposed "Live Local Pullman" based on Fallen. He has contacts at Fallen to help facilitate the program. The concept is to incentivize local citizens to use local business. Citizens would receive a passport book that get stamps from using a local business. The citizen would turn in a book page when it is full of stamps for a monthly raffle. The City budgets for the program costs. Councilmember Wright recommended using the Pullman Chamber to organize the program.

City Items

Marijuana
Update

1. Planning Director Dickinson reported on the history of state and local marijuana regulations.

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| Trails and Paths | 2. | Mayor Johnson distributed brochures on trails and paths. He said the Council is in support of keeping the John Wayne trail open and is exploring the path between Pullman and Colfax with Colfax, Whitman County and the state on preserving the railway or creating a trail. |
| Cougar Choice Housing | 3. | Senate Chair Kieling reported there is money from S & A to hire a position for Cougar Choice Housing, which provides a link between students and landlords. They have the position open and will start interviewing next week. |
| Airport Update | 4. | Mayor Johnson distributed brochures on the Pullman-Moscow Runway Project. The project is \$89 to \$119 million to move the runway 5.5 degrees, extend the runway and widen the runway. It is to be completed in 2019. Alaska Air has a dedicated lane and technology to operate in the fog. There are now four flights per day and the Seattle flight will continue through the summer. The airport is great for students, faculty, citizens, and the community. The community comes together to serve on the Board that is comprised of representatives from the City of Pullman, City of Moscow, Whitman County, Latah County, WSU, U of I and Port of Whitman County. Senator Chummun asked if the airport will be open during the runway project and Mayor Johnson confirmed yes the airport will be open. |
| Police Update | 5. | Police Sergeant Opgenorth reported that they are fully staffed with 29 officers and reported on the crime statistics: total incidents increased 11 percent, disorderly domestic violence increased 1 percent, three-year parking violations increased 29 percent, welfare checks increased 4 percent, alcohol related incidents increased 36 percent, auto theft increased 183 percent due to 6 incidents compared to 17, weapons increased 217 percent due to 6 incidents compared to 19, and burglary decreased 42 percent. The police department has social media for crime updates and public safety. Applications for ride a-longs are available at the front counter. Senate Chair Kieling asked what code enforcement can be done about college hill snow and ice. City attorney McAloon responded it is usually the owner or occupant's responsibility. City Supervisor Workman added we have a lean staff so we follow up on complaints but use a reactive approach instead of proactive. Senator Kalt asked how safe is Pullman compared to other schools. Mayor Johnson replied that Pullman was listed as the fourth safest town in the state. |
| Multicultural Outreach Opportunities | 6. | Sebastian announced his dream is multicultural outreach opportunities. He extended an invitation to the multicultural conference on Tuesday February 23, 2016 at the CUB senior ballroom. It is the twelfth annual banquet and silent auction. Mayor Johnson has a conflict with the City Council meeting and requested in the future the date be set when there is not a City Council meeting. |
| Safe Ride Program for Students | 7. | Zane Larsen, co-owner of College Cabs and WSU alumni, reported on the new safe ride program for students. His goal is to keep people and students |

safe. He thinks the program will save lives since there are student deaths due to the lack of a ride home. U of I started a safe ride program on January 15 and 16, 2016 and had 90 rides with multiple students per ride. A survey indicated a need for the program and much appreciation. Larsen wants to create a safe ride program separate from College Cabs where the drivers would need special training, an app to call a cab, and estimated at \$25 per student per semester for two safe rides. Councilmember Macoll thinks the program is a great idea and recommends marketing to parents and all citizens. Senator McMahon volunteered to be the ASWSU contact for Larsen.

**NEW BUSINESS/PUBLIC
TESTIMONY**

Whitman County Landlord (Tenant* Scriveners error correction 09/27/2016) Association President Anita Hornback expressed her concern for poor attendance to the housing fair and requested ideas from ASWSU. A suggestion is to host it for a week instead of a day and the location be on the CUB main floor.

Senator Kobza announced he is a WSU student and concerned citizen. In recent months he has heard of a cocaine problem at parties so students are exposed to cocaine within a few months of coming to Pullman. He calls upon the community leaders to take action and challenges new candidates to face this issue. Fire Chief Heston reported that he has seen an increase in drug and alcohol transport calls, but he cannot determine the type of drug (alcohol, marijuana, or cocaine). Police Sergeant Opgenorth reported that they are aware of an increase and the Quad Cities Drug Task Force is also aware and working on this issue.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Wright moved, Councilmember Weller seconded to adjourn the special meeting of the City Council.

Motion Carried.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the special meeting of the City Council at 7:50 p.m.

Finance Director/City Clerk